

17 March 2021

Ref: OAA741258

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Attendance

I am writing to thank you for your cooperation and support with the staggered return to school and student testing last week. Attendance across all year groups was brilliant last week and a particular well done must go to Y7 students who achieved 99% attendance on their first day back.

As you will be aware, we have less than two remaining weeks in school before the Easter holidays, after which we will embark upon our third and final term of the academic year. Engagement in online lessons throughout lockdown was excellent, however it is not a substitute for face to face learning in classrooms. I am writing to discuss attendance and to ensure all students have the maximum attendance they can for the Summer term.

Each week tutors will be reviewing individual student attendance. Their current percentage attendance can be viewed in their student planner. As with attendance before lockdown any COVID related absence, such as year group closures or isolation, will be authorised but may effect the overall figure for your child. This is obviously a national issue and the figure may be lower than expected but these reasons are taken into account by our attendance team. Praising Stars reports will show a breakdown of this each half term to help you monitor this situation at home. As a Trust we aim for all students to maintain an attendance of over 97% as statistically this gives them the best chance of success. This normally equates to 6 days absence within the school year (excluding any COVID closures or self isolation).

As a school we are doing our best to ensure that Outwood Academy Acklam is a safe environment for all staff and students and are following all government guidelines linked to COVID-19 and keeping our young people safe. We therefore expect all students to attend. Last week the vast majority of year groups attained figures between 95% and 97% for their weekly attendance. As part of our efforts to ensure students are praised for their efforts with attendance, weekly tutor prizes and half termly individual prizes will be rewarded to those with the best and most improved attendance. If we are able to work together to maintain this level then staff are more able to fill the gaps that lockdown has unfortunately created.

Should you have any questions regarding your child's attendance please contact our enquiries email address enquiries@acklam.outwood.com

Yours Sincerely



K. Mitchell
Assistant Principal.

